

CLAIMS

1. A cemented carbide material for a surface coated gear cutting tool which is employed in a substrate for a surface coated gear cutting tool obtained by forming a hard coated layer on a surface of said substrate,
said cemented carbide material for a surface coated gear cutting tool comprising a WC- β t-Co based cemented carbide,
wherein a content of Co forming a binder phase of said cemented carbide material for a surface coated gear cutting tool is in a range of 12 to 17 wt%, and
among components of a β t solid solution forming a hard phase of said cemented carbide material for a surface coated gear cutting tool, a content of components excluding WC is in a range of 15 to 20 wt%, and a total content of Ta carbonitride and Nb carbonitride is in a range of 5 to 8 wt%.
2. A cemented carbide material for a surface coated gear cutting tool according to claim 1, wherein a Nb content D_{Nb} and a Ta content D_{Ta} in said β t solid solution satisfy a relational expression of $D_{Nb}/(D_{Nb}+D_{Ta}) \geq 0.7$.
3. A cemented carbide material for a surface coated gear cutting tool according to claim 1, wherein a fracture toughness at room temperature is in a range of 9.5 to 13 MPa(m)^{1/2}.
4. A surface coated gear cutting tool comprising a cemented carbide material for surface coated gear cutting tools according to claim 1.